Selectmen's Minutes 14 February 2003 8:00 a.m.

On February 14th, 2003, the Chair, Jenifer Landman, called the public session to order at 8:00 a.m. in the Mary Herbert conference room. Those present included Lloyd Sullivan, Allen Hines (selectmen) and Mike Pardue (Town Administrator), and in the audience: Henry Mixter (Conservation Commission), a newspaper reporter from the Atlantic News, the Police Chief and Fire Chief.

I. Questions & Comments:

None.

II. Selectmen's Items:

a. Conservation Commission – Sub-contractor Project Work

Mr. Henry Mixter (Chair of the Conservation Commission) requested that the Commission be permitted to use Conservation Commission funds to hire a part-time temporary assistant to identify, organize and categorize the properties held in conservation or owned by the town. This assistant is an employee of the RPC, and the project would be about a 40-hr task (over 3 to 4 months to complete.) Ms. Landman asked if the properties would be identified as to which would allow for construction of town buildings, communication towers, and passive recreation (as walking, snow-shoeing, cross-country skiing, etc.) Mr. Mixter said that it would.

- b. Aquarion Water Company Major Groundwater Withdrawal Application
 Ms. Landman asked if the BoS would respond to the DES regarding new production wells in North Hampton. Tim Harned, Water Commissioner, had spoken to Ms. Landman regarding this issue with concerns about the water resource to replenish the wells as possibly draining the adjacent wetlands. It was agreed to ask Mr. Tim Harned draft a "non-confrontational" letter to the DES asking that the Town stay informed regarding this matter. The deadline to respond is 2/28/03.
- c. Sagamore Golf Center Update from NH DOT

The TA reported that the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector Red Mabey suggests the BoS wait until the snow melts before addressing the possible need for a guardrail at this intersection. Even though a car has gone over the embankment, there may be a guardrail under the snow that would be satisfactory when snow was not present. The question arises as to which entity would be responsible for paying for the guardrail: the state, the town or Sagamore Golf.

Rotary Auction – Request to Broadcast on Channel 22
 The Hampton Rotary requests that they be permitted to broadcast on Channel 22 to hold their annual benefit auction. The BoS had no objection to this request.

e. ST of NH meeting 2/21 Durham – B&M RR Bridges

The NH DOT is holding a meeting February 21st at 1pm in Durham to address various towns' concerns about the railroad's request that towns assume ownership of RR bridges (as Cedar Road Bridge). It was decided that the Town's TAC representative, Bob Landman, and the BoS Chair attend this

meeting. Bob Barry, Administrator of the Bureau or Municipal Highways, suggested that towns have their attorneys attend, but the BoS decided that it was not necessary to involve Atty. Ryan at this time.

f. Storm Water Report Update

Mr. Pardue said that Bob Strout would be attending a meeting to discuss the requirements of the Phase II Federal Stormwater Program. Ms. Landman quoted The Executive Council of the State of NH letter saying that Seabrook had received a grant for the drainage system mapping in the amount of \$15,375. Mr. Pardue said that he would contact them to see if North Hampton might qualify for a grant, also. Ms. Landman also said that Rye had completed their reporting. Mr. Pardue said that he would contact "Jordon" at the Rye Public Works Department for more information.

g. Status on Town Report Draft

Mr. Pardue said that Jan Facella would provide a draft copy of the Town Report as soon as it was available. Only a few items (commission reports) were missing.

h. Campaign Signs – Date to Begin

Understanding that there was no Town Ordinance limiting the display of campaign signs on private property, it was suggested by the BoS that the signs no go out prior to February 22nd.

i. Town Officers – Building Security

The Police Chief and Fire Chief discussed limited access to the new town offices above the police station after normal work hours, saying that lights have been left on and the door to the stairway unlocked. Volunteers have asked (and demanded) that they have access to this area for tasks such as photo-copying. It was decided by the BoS that access after standard office hours would be limited to authorized personnel (as the selectmen and TA), unless town volunteers are accompanied by a selectman or TA. Mr. Pardue will put a notice in the town office mailboxes of the various boards and commissions. It was agreed that the fire and police personnel should not be burdened with the responsibility of knowing which town volunteers should have access to this area. The BoS decided that the lock should be changed immediately and copies be given to limited personnel.

j. Other

- 1. <u>Department Managers' Salary Reviews</u> NHMA: Mr. Pardue stated that the NHMA reports were delayed due to January salary reviews by various towns. The reports are expected to be completed in the near future.
- 2. <u>Master Plan update</u>: Ms. Landman mentioned that the Planning Board Master Plan sub-committee was trying to update the Master Plan and that the BoS was responsible for a section. The project can wait until after the Town Report is finished.

- 3. <u>School Deliberative Session</u>: Mr. Sullivan mentioned the results of the School Deliberative Session. The citizenry present for the Session voted to increase the school budget beyond the amount recommended by the Budget Committee.
- 4. <u>Signatories on Town Checks</u>: Mr. Pardue mentioned that the Town Treasurer was out ill and that he had to sign the Building Inspector's paycheck (which was within his line of authority). Ms. Landman asked if the RSAs addressed the possible need of a Deputy Treasurer like it demands for Deputy Town Clerks and Deputy Tax Collectors. In the meantime, to provide a solution to the lack of alternate signatories, Mr. Sullivan made a motion to give the BoS Chair check signing authority in the case of emergencies, as a "back-up" only. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hines. The vote was unanimous. Ms. Landman was directed to sign the authorization card at the bank as soon as possible, as Mr. Pardue needed to be paid.
- 5. <u>Cory Landry Fire Investigator Certificate</u>: Deputy Chief Cory Landry received a certificate of achievement from the International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc. as a Certified Fire Investigator. This was due to successfully passing a written exam, attending a 3-day seminar and training on investigation fires, and a minimum of 8 years in fire-fighting/investigating service. To maintain this certification, he must continue his education every 3 years. Ms. Landman was authorized to write a letter of congratulations to Deputy Chief Landry.
- 6. <u>Police Department Update</u>: Chief Page mentioned several circumstances of outstanding achievements by our police personnel. One situation was apprehending suspects in a jewelry burglary (Quick Silver) with the jewelry in their possession on Rte. 1. Another situation was that the police possibly averted a death (due to exposure) of a civilian, as they found a woman at the beach at 2 a.m. needing assistance.
- 7. <u>Fire Department Emergency Preparedness</u>: Chief Lambert gave the BoS an update on the department's emergency preparedness as regards the current threat of terrorism in the country. He suggested that people prepare as they would for severe weather, as regards stocking food and water. He discouraged the need for duct-taping plastic over windows (as suggested on TV), saying it wouldn't be effective (in the case of poison gas) and might cause more problems (in case of emergency crew's access and/or poor air circulation).

III. Administration/Business

- a. Town Administrator's Report:
 - 1. Website Update: Mr. Pardue is checking on website addresses for volunteers, linking a North Hampton address to the individual's address.

- 2. Auditors: Mr. Pardue advised that the auditors would be in the office Tuesday February 18th.
- 3. Sexual Harassment Policy: Mr. Pardue gave each selectman a copy of the policy, which was then signed.
- 4. Lamprey Letter for Communications Tower: Ms. Joanne Lamprey sent a letter to the BoS, with copies to the Planning Board and Zoning Board, stating the need for a communications tower as it related to the need to call for assistance when a loaded school bus went off the road, January 21st. Ms. Lamprey desires to put a tower on her property to assist the mobile communications in the Rte. 1-A area of town.
- 5. Police Officer Resignation: Mr. Pardue advised the BoS of the recent resignation of a police officer.
- 6. School Complaint: A letter of complaint about the school was received.

 Ms. Landman or Mr. Pardue will draft a letter of response advising that the BoS has no control over school affairs and suggest that she contact the members of the elected school board with her concerns.
- b. Approval of Minutes January 27, 2003: Accepted as amended. Motion made by Mr. Hines, seconded by Mr. Sullivan. Unanimously approved.
- c. Payroll
- d. Manifest
- e. Abatement: Mill Place Reality Total under \$100.
- f. Exemptions Veterans/Elderly (4)
- g. Easement: Postponed authorization due to the lack of information.

III. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board in open session, Mr. Hines made the motion to adjourn open session and convene in non-public session under RSA 91:A:3 II (a,e) for the purpose of discussing personnel/legal issues. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. Open session adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenifer Landman, Chair